dissolution of the 12th Lok Sabha on 26.4.1999. Steps are being taken to re-introduce the Lok Pal Bill.

The Government set up a Working Group on 'Right to Information and Transparency' in January, 1997 which submitted its report to the Government on 21st May, 1997. The recommendation made by the Working Group was examined comprehensively and a draft Bill prepared for the purpose has been revised on the recommendations finalised by the Group of Ministers on February 2, 2000. Accordingly, action has been initiated to introduce the Bill in the Parliament.

Besides, the Central Vigilance Commission has been vested powers vide para 3(v) of Department of Personnel and Training Resolution No. 371/20/99-AVD.III dated 4th April, 1999 to exercise superintendence over the vigilance administration. The Commission has issued several instructions to reduce the scope of corruption such as creating a culture of honesty, greater transparency in administration, electronics clearance system and computerisation of banks, sensitising the public etc. The Central Vigilance Commission has also issued Special Chapters on vigilance management in public sector banks and public sector undertakings.

Increase in Dealers' Commission

90. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 1969 given in the Rajya Sabha on 8th August, 1997 and state:

(a) what is the formula for revising the dealers' commission to neutralise the effect of price hike in prices of MS and HSD;

(b) how many times the prices of these products were increased during the last three years;

(c) how much increase in dealers' commission is given to the dealers with each price hike; and

(d) if not, by what time the arrears would be given to the dealers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI E. PONNUSWAMY): (a) The formula for revising the dealers commission to neutralise the effect of price hike in prices of MS/ HSD is as under:

$$C_r = C_o + \frac{P_r - P_o \times F}{100}$$

Where P_r and P_o are the revised and original product prices; C_r and C_o are the revised and original dealers commission, and F the per KL factor to be applied for commission on MS/HSD in the various slabs.

(b) to (d) The details of revision in the ex-storage point price of MS/HSD and revision in deralers commission during the last three years is given in the enclosed Statement.

Statement

Revisions in Ex-Storage point prices of MS/HSD and Dealers Commission

Rs./KL

	EX-STORAGE PRICE		DEALERS COMMISSION (for dealers who do not pay by demand draft)			
	MS 87	HSD	MS 87		HSD	
			SLAB I	SLAB II	SLAB I	SLAB II
AS On: 31/12/1996	16055.43	6574.87	387	238	200	94
REVISED ON: 01/04/1997			389	239	201	94

02/09/1997	17055.43	8374.87				
06/11/1997			409	409	222	168
07/11/1997		7918.04				
25/12/1997		7996.84				
01/03/1998		7839.24				
01/04/1998			411	411	223	169
04/04/1998		7645.47				
03/06/1998	15795.43					
20/05/1998		7536.89				
09/01/1999		6722.37				
28/02/1999	15399.01	6621.76				
01/04/1999			413	413	224	170
20/04/1999		6882.15				
06/10/1999		9634.60				
05/01/2000			462	462	257	257

NOTE: EX-STORAGE POINT PRICES ARE EXCLUSIVE OF DUTY, FREIGHT, LOCAL LEVIES ETC.

Petrol and LPG outlets in Pondicherry

91. SHRI C.P. THIRUNAVUKKARASU: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of petrol/diesel, LPG distribution outlets published calling for applications by different companies in the last five years in the Union Territory of Pondicherry;

(b) how many applications have been received, so far;

(c) the details thereof; and

(d) by when all the published outlets will be allotted to the applicants?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI E. PONNUSWAMY): (a) to (d) 5 retail outlet dealerships and 6 LPG distributorships have been advertised by the Oil Companies during